



**Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D.**  
State Superintendent of Schools

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**To:** Licensed Child Care Providers, Essential Personnel Child Care (EPCC), and Essential Personnel School Age (EPSA) Providers

**From:** Steven R. Hicks  
Assistant State Superintendent  
Division of Early Childhood

**Subject:** Child Care Operating Procedures during COVID-19 Pandemic

**Date:** June 10, 2020

MSDE is providing this clarification on child care operating procedures in Maryland. All parents are now eligible to access child care services. All child care providers may reopen, as long as they follow all health department protocols listed on the MSDE website and adhere to class size restrictions. In order to reopen, providers must contact their licensing specialist and complete a *Child Care Verification of Reopening* form.

Class sizes in child care centers are now expanded to a maximum of 15 individuals per classroom with a ratio of no more than 1:14 for three and four year-olds. This is a temporary relaxing of the regulations. Family child care programs are limited to no more than 8 children at one time and no more than 15 persons total including residents. Family child care programs may serve different children on different days. They may also serve up to 8 children at one time in the evening and on weekends. All child care programs must continue to adhere to group size allowed for by age in licensing regulations.

Please continue to review our FAQs and resources on our website at <https://earlychildhood.marylandpublicschools.org/>.

Thank you for your continued service as essential persons providing child care for Maryland's families.